COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
729 N.E. Oregon, Suite 200, Portland, Oregon 97232
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June 16, 2008

Alan Moomaw
EPA Region 10, Tribal Trust & Assistance Unit
Washington Operations Office
300 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 102
Lacey, WA 98503

Dear Mr. Moomaw:

Enclosed is the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's Fiscal Year 2009 General Assistance Program Grant Program Narrative, revised Budget Narrative, Work Plan and all of the required application forms to complete our application. A copy has also been sent to you via e-mail.

Please feel free to contact me or Jaime Pinkham (Watershed Department Manager) at (503) 238-0667 if you have any questions or require additional information. We look forward to continuing our partnership with EPA on water quality improvement, watershed restoration, salmon recovery, and climate change.

Sincerely,

Laura Gephart

Laura Gephart
Watershed Programs Coordinator

Cc. Jon Matthews, Finance Director

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program
October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

I. BACKGROUND

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) was formed in 1977 by resolution of the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. Under treaties with the United States signed in 1855, the CRITFC member tribes reserved their sovereign rights to hunt and fish in areas ceded to the U.S. and at all usual and accustomed fishing stations. The tribes are recognized as co-managers of the fishery resources in the Columbia River Basin.

CRITFC is a technical support and coordinating agency for the fisheries management policies of its member tribes. The fish and wildlife committees of these tribes govern CRITFC. CRITFC employs biologists, hydrologists, other scientists, public information specialists, policy analysts, and administrators who work in a variety of areas in support of the tribal salmon restoration efforts. These areas of expertise include fisheries harvest control and coordination, scientific support, watershed restoration, water quality, private fund raising, public outreach, advocacy, and planning. CRITFC also operates a fisheries enforcement program for the four tribes. Inter-tribal police officers protect treaty fishermen from harm and harassment and enforce tribal fishing regulations. Appendix A shows the organizational structure of CRITFC.

The future of the tribal fishery depends on healthy watersheds. High quality water is critical to maintaining this watershed health. The importance of water quality to our member tribes cannot be overstated. As part of their tradition, water nourishes all life and as such, is treated with respect. Without this respect, the water cannot be protected from the myriad of human impacts that occur. Degraded water cannot nurture salmon or the humans who depend upon it for their physical and spiritual well being. Secured by trust and treaty, it is imperative that this precious resource meets the enduring needs of present and future generations.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Geographic Scope The Columbia River Basin encompasses nearly 260,000 square miles. The river drains most of Washington and Idaho, half of Oregon, Montana west of the Continental Divide, small portions of Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada and 40,000 square miles of British Columbia. The 1,214-mile-long river begins at Columbia Lake, high in the Rocky Mountains of British Columbia, Canada. It initially flows northwest for 218 miles. After crossing the United States-Canada border into northeastern Washington, the Columbia River flows south, west, and south again across central Washington in a broad curve commonly known as "Big Bend." Just below the mouth of the Snake River, the Columbia runs west for its remaining 210 miles. It cuts through the heart of the Cascade Mountains, thus forming the Columbia River Gorge; flows into the Columbia River Estuary and finally empties into the Pacific Ocean at Astoria, Oregon.

The primary purpose of CRITFC's Watershed Department work is to support and promote the water quality and

watershed improvement efforts of its member tribes in the Columbia River Basin. CRITFC provides technical assistance for the development of new programs and for the refinement of ongoing program activities. These program activities occur throughout the 23 Columbia River subbasins that lie within the ceded lands and usual and accustom fishing areas of Commission's member tribes. The subbasins include:

Washington: Yakima, Wenatchee, Entiat, Okanogan, Methow, Klickitat, Tucannon, Wind, Little White Salmon, Big White Salmon.
Oregon: Deschutes, Fifteenmile, John Day, Umatilla, Imnaha, Hood, and Willamette.
Idaho: Clearwater, Salmon.
Multi-State: Mid-Columbia Mainstem (OR, WA), Snake River Mainstem (OR, WA, ID), Walla Walla River (OR, WA), Grande Ronde Basin (OR, WA).

Water Quality Degradation Water quality in the Columbia River Basin continues to suffer as evidenced by ongoing efforts at the Portland Harbor Superfund site, new fish advisories, regional conflicts over surface temperature and total dissolved gas, PCB contamination at Bradford Island, numerous Clean Water Act 303 (d) listings for conventional and toxic pollutants, and the 2007 Lower Columbia River and Estuary Ecosystem Monitoring: Water Quality and Salmon Sampling Report. The loss and deterioration of the water resource has caused substantial harm to tribal people and their way of life.

Healthy populations of anadromous fish require cold, clean water in addition to well-connected habitat. These conditions are needed to fully support biological function throughout the salmonid life cycle. Large-scale consumptive uses in the basin however, have fragmented and destroyed much of the historical habitat resulting in degraded watersheds and water quality. The prevalence of toxic contaminants and other pollution present specific challenges to fisheries recovery and to other aquatic resource restoration efforts in the region due to the uncertainty associated with the lethal and sub-lethal impacts to fish survival and productivity. Research conducted by the NOAA Northwest Science Center in Seattle has shown significant sub lethal impacts to fish that need to be address in ongoing regional processes. The designation of the Columbia River as one of our Nation's Great Water Bodies, and initiation of the Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy are important steps for developing solutions to the water quality problems.

The impacts of climate change on water quality are also a growing concern. Evidence for anthropogenic climate change is strong, and a well-documented scientific consensus finds that the earth has warmed in the 20th century from human activities and will likely continue to do so at an increasing rate during the 21st century (Oreskes 2004, IPCC 2007). Climate change is expected to significantly alter the ecology and economy of the Pacific Northwest during the 21st century. Higher temperatures are expected to decrease snowfall and increase rainfall during the winter months, leading to shifts in the timing and quantity of runoff. This is likely to produce increased flooding during the winter and decreased flows during the summer when water supply demands are high. Water quality will also likely be impacted, including increased erosion and sediment delivery from winter storms and higher summer water temperatures.

Those impacts will significantly affect the CRITFC member tribes and their cultural use of resources. Salmon are particularly susceptible to changes in water quantity and quality because they rely on freshwater rivers and streams for migration, and for spawning and rearing habitat. Moreover, their survival is already imperiled by an accumulation of other factors.

The production and discharge of toxic contaminants and other pollutants into the environment also creates a substantial harm to tribal culture and traditional values. Salmon, water, and other natural and cultural resources are critical to tribal culture, religion, and economy. Consequently, CRITFC's tribal members rely upon their treaty resources in a manner that differs greatly from the non-tribal community. This unique relationship also places tribal members at a greater risk of exposure to toxic contaminants and other pollution.

Tribal Plan The four Columbia River treaty tribes have developed a plan, "*Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* (Spirit of the Salmon): The Columbia River Anadromous Fish Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs and Yakama Tribes," which uses a basin-wide, ecosystem approach to halt the decline of Columbia River salmon and restore these once-abundant populations. *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* addresses the problems affecting each stage of the salmon's life cycle, providing recommendations in the areas of habitat (including water quality), hydropower operation, harvest, and hatchery management. The plan combines the best current science with traditional knowledge and wisdom about the Columbia River Basin and its salmon populations to create a comprehensive, coordinated approach to salmon recovery. *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* presents an approach for habitat restoration that addresses critical habitat needs. A key feature of this approach includes protecting Columbia River Basin watersheds and water quality from additional damage. Specifically, the plan seeks to improve water quality by: 1) eliminating sources of toxic pollution that accumulate in fish; and 2) reducing discharges of other contaminants to meet water quality criteria for anadromous fish.

General Assistance Program CRITFC has received General Assistance Program (GAP) funding since the late 1990s. The Indian General Assistance Program Act of 1992, as amended (42 U.S.C. §4368b), authorized the GAP. GAP is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is used to support the development of tribal environmental programs and protection.

Through the GAP, CRITFC has developed the Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program under the Watershed Department. Efforts of the Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program are carried out pursuant to *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*, the tribal salmon restoration plan. Under the Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program, activities are conducted to promote tribal program development in support of tribal salmon restoration. The Watershed Department conducts the following activities: 1) provides ongoing coordination and technical support to tribal water quality programs of CRITFC's member tribes; 2) promotes and facilitates outreach initiatives to advance *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* water quality goals; 3) advocates for stable funding sources and technical assistance for tribal water quality and watershed programs; and 4) assists the member tribes in the refinement of ongoing, basin-wide water quality programs within a watershed framework.

Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program activities benefit the CRITFC member tribes in several ways. First and foremost Watershed Department activities emphasize communication within CRITFC and with the member tribes. Communication is critical to ensure that Commission activities support tribal environmental program goals. The Watershed Department also facilitates outreach to other regional tribes, federal, state, and private entities that share a concern for the health of the Columbia River Basin watershed. This outreach enables the tribes and other parties to maximize the scarce resources needed to address complex watershed problems. Watershed and water quality conferences and workshops are an important vehicle for this outreach and CRITFC has sponsored numerous conferences and workshops. For example, the 2002 and 2003 Watershed Department water quality workshops on fish contaminants provided the first opportunity for representatives from the CRITFC member tribes to join together in discussions on tribal fish contaminant program efforts.

The Watershed Department also provides ongoing technical support for tribal environmental programs. These activities include technical analysis and updates to CRITFC and tribal staff on regional water quality issues and regulatory processes. An example of this work includes the completion of the joint EPA/Commission Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey 1996-1998 (EPA 910-R-02-006). That study generated the largest fish contaminant database of its kind and created the foundation for numerous tribal program initiatives to address fish contaminants.

Additional technical support provided by CRITFC includes the preparation of technical comments on regulatory

processes such as the Clean Water Act programs administered by the states that may impact the treaty trust resources of the CRITFC member tribes. CRITFC staff also participate in activities related to hazardous waste cleanup at the Portland Harbor Superfund site and Bradford Island as well as other forums such as the Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy group and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership that address toxic contaminants in the Columbia River Basin.

GAP funding has been used to support the development of a Water Quality Improvement (WQIP) and Fish Contaminant Action Plan (FCAP). Those plans create a strategic, unified tribal response to water quality contaminants consistent with the goals set forth in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*. A key feature of the WQIP is the coordination of Watershed activities with other Commission departments and tribal programs. Coordination of these water quality program activities maximizes limited staff resources, promotes consistency in tribal water quality policy, and ensures that the critical water quality issues are covered.

The FCAP is an important component of the WQIP. Completion of the EPA/Commission Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey 1996-1998 (EPA 910-R-02-006) alerted CRITFC and its member tribes to the threat fish contaminants pose to tribal health and the treaty resources. The study findings have raised concern over the potential impacts to tribal people and the tribal fishery. The FCAP is the tribal response to fish contaminants with goals to reduce exposure, understand the extent and nature of the problem, and educate the tribal and non-tribal public. Key to this effort is the development of tools that can be used to educate tribal representatives and to inform policy. In addition, attention is given to coordinate tribal efforts in agency planning.

A detailed discussion of Watershed Department initiatives funded through the GAP is presented in Section XII of this Program Narrative.

III. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Projects and Initiatives CRITFC continues to demonstrate a commitment to tribal, water quality improvement efforts. In recognition of the mixed land ownership throughout the Columbia River Basin, (e.g., federal, state, tribal, private) CRITFC and its member tribes emphasize cooperative partnerships and alliances to address water quality and watershed degradation issues. Productive working relationships, characterized by frank and respectful communication between the tribes and other governments, help ensure that long-term water quality and watershed improvement is realized.

Collaborative Efforts CRITFC and its member tribes continue to work and develop partnerships with federal and local government agencies, environmental groups, industry, and other stakeholders to improve, restore, and protect watershed health and water quality. Water Quality improvement efforts in the Watershed Department continue to benefit from our collaborations with the Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology (CROET), the NOAA Northwest Science Center, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership (LCREP), the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Those partnerships are valuable as they promote the exchange of experience, expertise, and resources to further local and regional environmental restoration initiatives. Collaborative relationships also enable tribal governments and their partners to move more quickly towards accomplishing the shared goal of eliminating environmental threats caused by toxic contaminants and climate change. As stated in the 2006-2011 EPA strategic plan, collaborative efforts are critical to enhancing and sustaining environmental progress in the United States and abroad.

One exciting initiative where we have partnered with OHSU and the EPA is database management. OHSU assisted CRITFC as we updated the CRITFC Fish Consumption Database. The update included an analysis of the 24 hour nutritional diet survey collected but not analyzed, during the fish consumption study (CRITFC 1994). The nutritional diet survey data was entered into the database and received a quality assurance quality control assessment during 2005 through 2006. We continue to work with our Operations Department to make certain the electronic format of the database is current to ensure the security of this culturally sensitive and important database.

In addition to that OHSU project, the Water Quality Coordinator with staff from the CRITFC Fishery Science and Operations Department, developed a tribal water quality/watershed database that was completed in 2007. Creation of that database was made possible through the EPA National Environmental Exchange Network (EPA NEIN) Readiness Grant. CRITFC used that grant to develop a data Exchange Network Node. This node can be used by CRITFC member tribes and other potential data exchange partners to access and share Columbia River Basin datasets. These datasets include water quality, riparian and in-channel parameters, and anadromous fish distribution and use. Most of the datasets have a geospatial component and can be used with GIS software to create useful management tools. Water quality and toxic contaminant information will eventually be used by the CRITFC member tribes to help manage risk to tribal members and fish.

There is a continued need to increase the internal capabilities of CRITFC and its member tribes to handle and store environmental data, to improve internal technical expertise, and to provide access to those data. Environmental management decisions are enhanced as staff are more readily able to access relevant datasets. CRITFC's Fish Science and Watershed departments have been working in coordination with tribal staff to discuss the development of a tribal Geographic Information System (GIS) database. The purpose of this database is to centralize existing data on contaminants and other water quality parameters in the Columbia River Basins. These discussions are continuing with a goal to develop a joint funding program to further the creation of this tribal information network.

Fish Tissue Contaminants Completion of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Columbia River Fish Contaminant Survey in 2002 (EPA 2002) provided a first look at the extent of fish tissue contamination in Columbia River fish. In response to that report, CRITFC directed the Watershed Department to draft a Fish Contaminant Action Plan to provide guidance on how CRITFC and its member tribes will address fish contamination in the Columbia River Basin. The goals of the Fish Contaminant Action Plan are reflected in the October 2003 Resolution #03-84, "Protecting Columbia River Basin Fish from Toxic Contaminants and Other Pollution" passed by the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians at the October 2003 meeting in Pendleton, Oregon. The resolution calls for the need to strengthen existing laws and regulations that impact the discharge and cleanup of fish contaminants, the development of new initiatives to reduce fish tissue contaminants, and long-term funding for tribal fish contaminant programs. This resolution was a cooperative effort between CRITFC's Watershed Department and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

A Water Quality Improvement Plan, along with the Fish Contaminant Action Plan (WQIP/FCAP), was completed in 2005. Our goal for those plans is to enable CRITFC and its member tribes to achieve water quality improvement success today while simultaneously developing infrastructure and strategies that address the longer-term water quality pollution problems such as toxic contaminants. The WQIP/FCAP provides a strategic, unified tribal response and presents the actions that CRITFC will take to move towards improving water quality for the protection of the trust resources and tribal health. These actions will reflect decisions backed by credible science and will support tribal salmon restoration efforts and water quality improvement programs of CRITFC and its member tribes.

A brochure that highlights the goals and objectives of these plans is currently being developed. This brochure will be used to educate the tribal and non-tribal community on the problems of fish contaminants and the tribal

efforts to remedy this situation. Current and future efforts of the Water Quality Coordinator are focused on developing specific programs in support of the Fish Contaminant Action Plan and providing support to CRITFC's tribes on other tribal water quality concerns.

The problem of toxic contaminants in the Columbia River Basin is a high priority for each of the CRITFC's member tribes. Improved coordination on this issue is desired and necessary to make the most of limited resources dedicated to the issue. As mentioned previously (see Database Development discussion), we continue our efforts with CRITFC staff to create an interactive, tribal fish contaminant database. We are also working with our federal and state government partners on this issue. As one example, the Water Quality Coordinator is participating in the EPA Region 10 effort to reduce toxic contaminants in the Lower Columbia River (i.e., EPA Toxic Reduction Strategy for the Lower Columbia River). With EPA as the lead, this multi-agency/group is attempting to coordinate ongoing efforts to identify priority toxic reduction efforts in the basin.

Clean Water Act (CWA) Regulatory Processes The Water Quality Coordinator closely follows state water quality standards triennial review processes in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Working closely with Commission and tribal staff, the Water Quality Coordinator prepares comprehensive comments on proposed rule changes and provides regular project updates to tribal staff and the CRITFC Commissioners. The Water Quality Coordinator also continues to work with EPA on these processes.

In addition to the state of Oregon's triennial review, the Water Quality Coordinator provides technical support to CRITFC tribes on other CWA regulatory processes. Of particular importance to our member tribes are state water quality criteria for human health which are based on fish consumption rates. The Water Quality Coordinator is providing technical support to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation for their participation in the Oregon fish consumption rate project. The goals for that project are to provide a public forum to discuss the implications of raising the fish consumption rate to develop a range of recommendations to the Environmental Quality Commission of possible fish consumption rate values that might be used to calculate the human health criteria.

Another important area is the NPDES Permitting process. The Water Quality Coordinator completed an EPA sponsored NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course in 2005 and is exploring avenues to provide technical and administrative training for tribal staff in the NPDES permitting process. An active and continuous role by CRITFC in these CWA processes ensures that tribal water quality interests are considered and addressed.

Public Outreach and Education The Water Quality Coordinator participates in numerous outreach activities (e.g., conferences, workshops, community advisory groups) and uses the opportunities to educate tribal members, federal agencies, state agencies, and the general public on the importance of tribal efforts to restore salmon and salmon habitat. That outreach results in cooperative partnerships and alliances to create an environment where opportunities for improvements in watershed and water quality health are realized. A fish contaminant workshop co-sponsored by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Oregon Health & Science University, the Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center and the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is an example of the type of outreach promoted by the Watershed Department. The Water Quality Coordinator provided technical and coordinating support for this November 2004 event. The purpose of that workshop was to educate and share current knowledge about contamination in fish in the Columbia River Basin that pose risk to tribal people.

More recent examples include a presentation given at an EPA sponsored Lower Columbia River Toxic Contaminants Meeting held in Portland, OR on September 7, 2005. The Water Quality Coordinator also participated on a Tribal Panel at the *EJ-ACT: Environmental Justice-Action Communities, and Topics* Conference held at the Center for Social and Environmental Justice at Washington State University in Vancouver, Washington on February 26, 2005. The title of the presentation was *Fish Contaminants and*

Environmental Justice.

The Water Quality Coordinator recently provided technical and facilitation support for a tribal leader's presentation titled "Tribal Perspective: The Importance of Seafood" given during a panel discussion on "Linking Ocean Ecosystem Health to Public Health" at the Coastal Zone 2007 conference held in Portland, Oregon.

Tribal Governments As in previous years, the Watershed Department continues to foster a collaborative working relationship with our member tribes. Towards this end, the Water Quality Coordinator meets regularly with tribal staff to discuss watershed and water quality issues and program development. On-going communication with tribal staff is essential to ensuring that Watershed Department activities support and reflect tribal program needs and goals. Maintaining and building this communication will continue as a priority of the Watershed Department. In addition, the Watershed Department outreach efforts have included increasing communications and collaboration with other tribal governments, and regional watershed and water quality improvement initiatives. As an example, the Watershed Department has hosted two meetings with the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, most recently in the fall of 2007. The Water Quality Coordinator continues to provide support to the six tribes working on the Portland Harbor cleanup effort.

Non-Tribal Governments The Water Quality Coordinator also expands outreach efforts to the non-tribal community. As co-managers of the salmon resource in the Columbia River Basin, tribal and CRITFC staffs work closely with representatives of local, regional, and national governments on water quality and watershed restoration issues. Respectful and positive working relationships between those governments, the tribes, and CRITFC are key to moving forward the mutual goal of salmon restoration in the Columbia River Basin. Further, an improved understanding of tribal culture and the importance of salmon to the CRITFC member tribes enables regulatory, policy, and management decisions to better reflect the tribal goals for watershed and water quality health.

The Water Quality Coordinator was honored to receive an invitation to participate in the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation, which presented many opportunities to speak with others involved in watershed and water quality improvement efforts across the nation. The White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation was held in St. Louis, MO August 28-August 31, 2005.

The Watershed Department continues CRITFC 's participation in several regional processes including the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, Northwest Power Planning Council, the Columbia River Mainstem Review, environmental cleanup activities, the City of Portland Watershed Science Advisory Group, the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, the Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy, and CWA regulatory processes. Participation in those regional processes continues to advance the water quality and watershed improvement efforts of CRITFC's member tribes. That participation increases funding support to the member tribes, increases program capacity, and promotes tribal water quality and watershed improvement programs. Knowledge of regulatory issues and processes builds upon itself and helps focus and prioritize tribal funding and project participation efforts resulting in increased program capacity.

Professional Presentations In August 2003, the Water Quality Coordinator presented a poster, developed in collaboration with EPA, titled *A Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey 1996-1998* at the annual American Fisheries Society Meeting held in Quebec City, in Quebec, Canada. The poster was awarded the Best Professional Poster Award in the Water Quality Section. The meeting was attended by scientists representing numerous countries and provided an excellent forum for discussion with international scientists on salmon restoration goals.

Other forums continue to provide opportunities to highlight the scientific basis of the tribal salmon restoration

plan. Presentations given or facilitated by the Water Quality Coordinator at these forums include:

- Invitation to speak at the Coastal Zone 2007 Conference held in Portland, OR during July 2007. Provided technical and facilitation support for a tribal leader's presentation on "Tribal Perspective: Reliance on Seafood" for a panel session on "Linking Ocean Ecosystem Health to Public Health,"
- EPA sponsored Lower Columbia River Toxic Reduction Strategy Meeting held in Portland, OR on September 7, 2005,
- Tribal Panel at the *EJ-ACT: Environmental Justice-Action Communities, and Topics* Conference held at the Center for Social and Environmental Justice at Washington State University in Vancouver, Washington on February 26, 2005. The title of the presentation was *Fish Contaminants and Environmental Justice*,
- American Society for Public Administration's 2004 National Conference 2004, Invited Speaker for Section on "Cultural Consideration for the Development of Environmental Policy,"
- Association of Women in Environmental Professions (February 2003 in Seattle, WA),
- Guest Lecturer at Portland Community College (January 2003),
- EPA Ag Sector Contacts Meeting (June 2003 in Dalles, OR),
- American Fisheries Society Poster Presentation (August 2003 in Quebec City, Canada), and
- Native American Fish and Wildlife Panel Presentation (October 2003 in Quinalt, WA).

Funding Support The Watershed Department's continued involvement locally and nationally in the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) process has resulted in increased funding for the Columbia River Tribes under this fund. There are ongoing PCSRF CRITFC tribal projects throughout the Columbia River Basin addressing salmon habitat, salmon enhancement, salmon research, and monitoring and salmon outreach and education issues.

CRITFC established a program in the Watershed Department to solicit and review proposals from member tribes, and present these proposals for Commission approval. The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund will continue to be used to plan and implement tribal projects and for future funding. A project database/GIS system of all Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and Bonneville Power Authority projects has been created for meticulous tracking of all projects.

The Watershed Department, in cooperation with CRITFC's Operations and Fish Science Departments, recently established an Internet node to participate in the EPA data exchange network. That work was funded by an EPA NEIN Readiness grant. We are currently working with tribal staff to develop a cooperative program whereby CRITFC will work with the tribal programs to implement data management and integration across several departments and programs. To support this effort we will need to identify additional funding sources.

IV. PURPOSE AND NEED

With the completion of the EPA Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey (1996-1998) in 2002, CRITFC's member tribes identified an urgent need to develop program infrastructure to address environmental contaminants. Since the report's release, the Watershed Department has worked with the CRITFC tribes to develop workshops and a tribal database for the purpose of sharing current knowledge on fish contamination. Those efforts represent the first steps towards creating a tribal information base that will help define the risk to tribal members and their treaty protected resources. From this knowledge, strategic actions can be realized that will address the unique needs and concerns of each tribe.

Program development on the scale necessary to achieve the technical capacity to understand and solve complex, scientific issues demands a long-term financial investment. In order to ensure accountability, the tribal

infrastructure must exist to plan, assess, coordinate, implement, monitor, and publicize the water quality efforts of the tribes and their partners. The challenge for our member tribes is to continue to build tribal capacity while providing protection for tribal members and the treaty secured resources from existing environmental harm. For the short term, CRITFC's member tribes require technical assistance to understand the health risks that fish contaminant exposure and other pollution, creates for tribal members, the salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon.

CRITFC initiated work under the EPA Indian General Assistance Program (GAP), to provide assistance to our member tribes to build tribal capacity for on-reservation fishery programs directed towards physical habitat improvements. Those efforts met with great success (please see the General Assistance Program and Accomplishment Sections of this proposal). We continue to work with our tribes to build programs that directly address critical water quality issues in the Columbia River Basin such as fish contaminants, surface temperature, and regulatory, and cleanup processes. To further this work, we continue to enter into new relationships with other tribal and non-tribal environmental programs. We also promote a diversified funding base that requires no federal cost shares.

Water Quality Coordinator Position There remains a strong need within CRITFC's existing Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program for sustained scientific and technical capacity, particularly in the area of fish contaminants, regulatory processes, and overall water quality. In September 2000, CRITFC established a Water Quality Coordinator position to provide this expertise to its member tribes. The Water Quality Coordinator provides on-going coordination, scientific, and technical assistance to CRITFC's member tribes on water quality issues related to watershed restoration. The Water Quality Coordinator further supports the tribes' salmon restoration program by ensuring that the water quality goals identified in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* are part of the regional and local water quality processes.

Another key role of the Water Quality Coordinator is to provide on-going coordination assistance to CRITFC and its member tribes. This function has taken the form of liaison between tribal and non-tribal governments. For example, the Water Quality Coordinator was a member of the EPA Region 10 Temperature Criteria Project policy team and currently participates on the Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy team. The Water Quality Coordinator recently began participation on the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership. Alternatively, the Water Quality Coordinator may bring together the appropriate tribal and Commission staffs for the purpose of addressing new and emerging water quality issues. The desired outcome of both activities is to facilitate positive, constructive, and open dialogue among all interested parties. In addition, these activities help ensure that that tribal government and staff are kept apprised of policy and regulatory changes that may impact their treaty resources and interests.

The GAP funding will enable CRITFC to maintain staff for the Water Quality Coordinator position located at the CRITFC office in Portland, Oregon. The Water Quality Coordinator will operate as part of the Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program Team and will continue to provide on-going technical support to the four CRITFC member tribes.

IV. GOALS AND COMPONENTS

Goals This GAP program has three principle goals. The first goal is to provide technical, coordinating, and funding support to the tribal environmental programs of CRITFC's member tribes. The second goal is to support tribal program development to achieve water quality improvement in the Columbia River Basin and for Columbia River Basin fish pursuant to *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*. The third goal is to begin to educate the CRITFC member tribes about the latest technical information on climate change and its potential effects and to begin to develop a framework for future collaborative actions to mitigate and respond to the impacts of climate change on tribal resources and communities.

Given those goals the four grant components will:

1. Provide and develop technical support capabilities (e.g., water quality standards review; fish contaminants; TMDLs; NPDES permits; GIS tools; database development and management; incorporation of scientific guidelines into tribal water quality and watershed restoration activities; and funding opportunities) for tribal water quality programs within a watershed framework.

2. Provide continued technical support for the tribal approach to water quality restoration and management within a watershed framework.

3. Promote and advance the goals and objectives of the tribal Water Quality Improvement Plan and Fish Contaminant Action Plan.

4. Provide education and outreach to the non-tribal community to advance Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit water quality goals in watershed planning and restoration (by promoting partnerships with tribes, universities, agencies, local governments, nonprofit groups, and the public for the purpose of collaboration, education, and outreach).

VI. FUNDING NEEDS

Funding for Water Quality Coordinator Successful salmon restoration in the Columbia River Basin depends on meaningful water quality improvement. CRITFC continues to provide support to its member tribes on numerous technical and policy issues that impact the treaty trust resources. Funding of the Water Quality Coordinator position is critical to effective coordination of tribal water quality improvement activities and to provide outreach to non-tribal governments and other entities working on water quality restoration in the Columbia River Basin.

The Water Quality Coordinator has demonstrated an ability and enthusiasm to provide technical and coordinating assistance in support of the CRITFC member tribes' regional water quality and watershed improvement efforts. Without staff dedicated to the coordination, outreach, and technical support, water quality improvement in support of salmon restoration efforts will be seriously compromised. CRITFC and its member tribes present a unified tribal approach to water quality restoration that requires a commitment to fund the institutional structure necessary to coordinate tribal actions. GAP funding is essential to that effort.

VII. BUDGET NARRATIVE

This grant will be administered through the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Watershed Department. The Water Quality Coordinator will be based out of the Watershed Department. Accountability will be maintained through CRITFC's Department of Finance accounting procedures. The budget emphasis is to: 1) provide technical support to the CRITFC member tribes' water quality programs; 2) promote tribal water quality programs; 3) promote and facilitate outreach initiatives; and 4) assist the member tribes in the refinement of ongoing, basin-wide tribal water quality programs within a watershed framework. Schedules and reports for project deliverables will be developed on a quarterly basis.

This grant will be in effect for the Fiscal Year 2009. The Water Quality Coordinator will contribute 160 hours per month towards fulfillment of work plan commitments. Specifically, this grant will be used to support 100% of the Water Quality Coordinator's salary. The hours allocated to each work plan task reflect this distribution of funds. Budget details are presented in the Proposed Budget and associated Work Plan.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program
October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009

VIII. PROPOSED BUDGET

1. Salary and Fringe Benefits and Supplies

Salary: Water Quality Coordinator (1.00 FTE):	$ 59,941.00
Fringe Benefits @ 32.5%: (Retirement, Health Insurance, FICA, SUTA, & FUTA)	$ 19,481.00
Total	**$ 79,422.00**

2. Travel

Cost of living increases combined with high direct and indirect cost severely restrict the travel and training portion of the Fiscal Year 2009 work plan. Those limitations will not however, affect the quality of the work conducted by the Water Quality Coordinator. In place of traveling in person to out of town meetings, the Water Quality Coordinator will participate by phone. The Water Quality Coordinator will also work to secure funding to support additional travel and training.

TOTAL BUDGET
FISCAL YEARS 2009

Salary, Fringe Benefits, Supplies	$ 79,422.00
Travel:	$ 0
Equipment:	$ 0
Indirect @ 38.5% *($79,422 * 0.385))*	$ 30,578.00
Contractual:	$ 0
GRAND TOTAL	**$ 110,000.00**

IX. PROPOSED WORK PLAN

Indian Environmental General Assistance Program funds will be used to assist and promote tribal program development efforts to improve the environmental health of watershed water quality in support of tribal salmon restoration. These watersheds are located throughout the Columbia River Basin on the reservations, within the ceded territories, and throughout the usual and accustomed fishing areas of the CRITFC's member tribes. The components and tasks described below support the tribal salmon restorations goals of *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-*

Kish-Wit (Spirit of the Salmon) "The Columbia River Anadromous Fish Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama Tribes;" by providing critical scientific, technical, and coordinating support and expertise to further the capacity of tribal water quality programs.

X. SUMMARY OF FTE% AND COST PER OBJECTIVE/COMPONENT

Table 1. Summary of Component 1 for the 2008-2009 Work Plan.

Tribal Consortia; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Region: 10
Work Plan Period Begin: October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009

Work Plan Component: Develop technical support capabilities for tribal water quality programs within a watershed framework.
Personnel: WQ Coordinator
Primary Capacity Area Developed: Technical & Communication

Long - Term Outcome(s): Realization of the water quality goals set fort in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* is achieved in the Columbia River Basin that is protective of human and ecological health by reducing fish tissue contaminants and other pollutants.

Intermediate Outcome(s): Tribal program capacity to analyze and assess water quality problems increases. Improved communication between government partners creates an environment where potential solutions to water quality problems can be developed and discussed. Coordination of program activities and initiatives between the tribes promotes a unified tribal response to water quality pollution. Limited resources are maximized increasing the efficiencies and effectiveness of tribal, water quality improvement programs. Increased funding of tribal water quality programs increases tribal participation in processes that target watershed and water quality restoration.

ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST: $22,275		ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 20.25%FTE	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
1.1 Develop programs and initiatives consistent with the *Water Quality Improvement Plan* and *Fish Contaminant Action Plan.* *Italics = new work plan initiatives* **Notes:** 1.1a. Fishery Science, Operations, and the Watershed Departments successfully developed an EPA data exchange network node (FY 2006-2007). Creation of that node and preparation of internal infrastructure is the first phase of a multi-year project to fully enable data flow following the EPA Exchange Network model. CRITFC staff added the EPA Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey (PA 910/R-02-006) database to the exchange network node. 1.1b. CRITFC has identified the need for a database of the scientific literature on fish contaminants. 1.1g. CRITFC has identified program needs related to climate change: 1) educate the member tribes about climate change and it potential effects on tribal resources; 2) provide opportunities to share ideas about how to cope with climate change impacts to protect tribal cultural values; 3) develop a framework for future collaborative actions to mitigate and respond to climate change	Technical & Communication	Ongoing Oct 1, 2008 - Sept 30, 2009	a. *Further develop and expand the tribal fish contaminant database. That work will be incorporated into the monthly activities of the Water Quality Coordinator and coordinated with the CRITFC Fish Science Department.* b. *Develop a database of scientific papers that address fish health (including salmon, lamprey, and sturgeon) from contaminant exposure.* c. Contact tribal staff monthly and meet with tribal staff –at a minimum-annually to discuss tribal-specific water quality initiatives. d. Attend the annual Oregon Water Quality Conference sponsored by the Environmental Law and Education Center. Attend Training at a minimum of once per year (funding dependent). e. Present regular updates at monthly Commission meetings. Facilitate on-going (i.e., daily, weekly), information exchange between the CRITFC tribes, other tribal governments, and federal and state agencies. f. Develop or facilitate, on an as-needed-basis, technical training for tribal staff on specific water quality issues. g. *Identify and pursue opportunities and forums for the CRITFC and its member tribes to address climate change impacts on water quality and tribal resources.* h. *Provide technical and facilitation assistance to support a CRITFC sponsored tribal climate change workshop (see 1.g).*

impacts on tribal resources.			

2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan
Goal:
Objective:
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:

Table 1. Continued

Tribal Consortia; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Region: 10
Work Plan Period Begin: October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009
Work Plan Component: Develop technical support capabilities for tribal water quality programs within a watershed framework.
Personnel: Water Quality Coordinator
Primary Capacity Area Developed: Technical & Communication
Long - Term Outcome(s): Realization of the water quality goals set fort in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* is achieved in the Columbia River Basin that is protective of human and ecological health by reducing fish tissue contaminants and other pollutants.

Intermediate Outcome(s): Tribal program capacity to analyze and assess water quality problems increases. Improved communication between government partners creates an environment where potential solutions to water quality problems can be developed and discussed. Coordination of program activities and initiatives between the tribes promotes a unified tribal response to water quality pollution. Limited resources are maximized increasing the efficiencies and effectiveness of tribal, water quality improvement programs. Increased funding of tribal water quality programs increases tribal participation in processes that target watershed and water quality restoration.

ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST: $7,425		ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 6.75%FTE	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
1.2 Continue to track new funding opportunities for tribal programs. Meet with tribal/CRITFC staff to help identify those opportunities. *Italics = new work plan initiatives* **Notes:** The Water Quality Coordinator coordinated (October - November 2007) a team effort to submit a Commission proposal (#EPA-OAR-CCD-07-13) in support of a Columbia River Basin tribal climate change workshop that invites the participation of tribal leaders from the 13 Columbia River Basin tribes, native leaders from Alaska, First Nations of Canada, and others involved in climate change research. Efforts will continue during fiscal year 2009 to secure funding to support tribal climate change response efforts and actions.	Technical	Ongoing October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009	a. *Submit grant applications that support tribal efforts to address regional climate change impacts and fish tissue contaminants (dependent on tribal support and approval).* b. Meet regularly with CRITFC department managers to discuss funding opportunities. c. *Identify funding sources to support tribal, climate change response initiatives and tribal fish contaminant reduction programs.*

2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan
Goal:
Objective:
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:

Table 2. Summary of Component 2 for the 2008-2009 Work Plan.

Tribal Consortia; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Region: 10
Work Plan Period Begin: October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009

Work Plan Component: Provide continued technical support for the tribal approach to water quality restoration and management within a watershed framework.
Personnel: WQ Coordinator
Primary Capacity Area Developed: Technical & Communication

Long - Term Outcome(s): An in-depth understanding of the regional and national processes that impact water quality increases tribal capacity to respond to proposed rule changes or other actions that impact water quality and the treaty-reserved resources. That increased participation will result in improved water quality through the incorporation of *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* into the decision-making process. Application of Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit to watershed/water quality restoration efforts will result in long-term water quality improvement that is protective of human and ecological health through the reduction of fish tissue contaminants and other impacts.

Intermediate Outcome(s): Increased ability for the member tribes to respond to specific water quality issues such as a proposed rule change, a technical analysis, or policy implications of technical decisions.

ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST:$29,700		ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 27%FTE	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
2.1 Continue to provide regular technical support to tribal staff on regional and national water quality issues, CERCLA, and Clean Water Act regulatory processes. *Italics = new work plan initiatives since the last work plan was submitted to EPA.*	Technical & Communication	Ongoing Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009	a. Provide monthly updates, analyses, and technical recommendations to the CRITFC member tribes on regional and national regulatory processes that impact water quality. b. Review and/or prepare technical comments on proposed rules or guidance (minimum of two per year such as TMDLs, WQS, NPDES, etc.). c. Conduct visits to reservations when requested (funding dependent). d. Present technical updates at Commission meetings (minimum of three times per year). e. Attend meetings on regional water quality programs and processes (four to ten meetings per month, meetings typically run four to eight hours in length). Examples include Portland Harbor RI/FS & NRDA, City of Portland Watershed Advisory Group, *Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy, and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership.* f. Complete a comparison of state water quality standards for the states and Idaho, Washington and Oregon. g. *Provide technical support during the Oregon water quality standards review of the human health criteria for toxics contaminants. The Water Quality Coordinator is assisting the CTUIR on the DEQ Fish Consumption Rate Project.*
2.2 Provide technical consultation to tribes on an "as needed basis."	Technical & Communication	Ongoing Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009	a. Meet with tribal staff (in person, by phone or video conferencing) as needed to discuss project-specific issues.

2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan
Goal:
Objective:
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:

Table 3. Summary of Component 3 for the 2008-2009 Work Plan.

Tribal Consortia; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Region: 10
Work Plan Period Begin: October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009

Work Plan Component: Promote and advance the goals and objectives/components of the tribal Water Quality Improvement Plan and Fish Contaminant Action Plan.
Personnel: WQ Coordinator
Primary Capacity Area Developed: Communication

Long - Term Outcome(s): Realization of the tribal water quality improvement goals as set forth in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* resulting in the long-term protection of human and ecological health, including that of tribal members and their treaty-secured resources.

Intermediate Outcome(s): Increased cooperation and coordination between tribal and other government entities. Increased understanding by government entities of tribal water quality goals and direction for achieving those goals. Increased coordination of tribal water quality restoration and management programs resulting in more timely on-the-ground watershed and water quality restoration activities.

ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST:$29,700		ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 27%FTE	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
3.1 Act as a technical liaison to regional processes and forums addressing water quality management, protection, and restoration. Promote tribal programs and successes through those venues. *Italics = new work plan initiatives since the last work plan was submitted to EPA.*	Communication	Ongoing October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009	a. Articulate the tribal perspective on water quality and watershed management/protection/restoration as part of regional water quality processes. The Water Quality Coordinator is participating in six regional water quality processes (Portland Harbor RI/FS & NRDA, City of Portland Science Advisory Group, Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy, Oregon Fish Consumption Rate Project, and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership). b. Provide updates to the Commission (a minimum of three Commission updates each year) and its member tribes on those activities in 3.1a. c. Explore and facilitate partnerships with non-CRITFC member tribes, universities, agencies, local government, and other entities. This activity will be incorporated into the daily and weekly activities of the Water Quality Coordinator. d. *Continue to explore opportunities for collaboration between CRITFC and the Center for Coastal Margin Observation & Prediction and between CRITFC and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership.*
3.2 Facilitate technical exchange between tribes by conducting inter-tribal meetings on water quality issues.	Communication	Ongoing October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009	a. Hold and/or provide support for inter-tribal technical meetings or workshops as needed or requested by tribal staff. *Explore funding opportunities to host a tribal climate change workshop for the Columbia River Basin tribes.*

Facilitate technical exchange between tribes by conducting inter-tribal meetings on water quality issues.
Goal:
Objective:
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:

Table 4. Summary of Component 4 for the 2008-2009 Work Plan.

Tribal Consortia; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Region: 10
Work Plan Period Begin: October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009

Work Plan Component: Provide education and outreach to the non-tribal community to advance *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* water quality goals in watershed planning and restoration.
Personnel: WQ Coordinator
Primary Capacity Area Developed: Communication & Technical

Long - Term Outcome(s): Long-term watershed and water quality improvements that are protective of human and ecological health, including tribal members and their treaty-secured resources.

Intermediate Outcome(s): An understanding of and action taken on tribal water quality goals set forth in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* leads to a different approach to water quality restoration and protection

ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST:$14,300		ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 13%FTE	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
1. Continue ongoing efforts to educate agencies, organizations, and individuals on the scientific basis of the tribal salmon restoration plan. Give presentations, participate in forums, and conduct poster sessions at conferences to bring broader exposure to tribal, water quality restoration efforts. Notes: 1b. The Water Quality Coordinator prepared a presentation for the Coastal Zone 2007 Conference held in Portland, Oregon in July 2007. That presentation ("Tribal Perspective: Reliance on Seafood") was given by a tribal leader during the concurrent panel session "Linking Ocean Ecosystem Health to Public Health."	Communication & Technical	Ongoing October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009	a. Attend relevant conferences, scientific meetings and workshops at a minimum at twice per year (funding dependent). b. Give presentations on tribal water quality topics at conferences, scientific meetings, workshops and other forums. Presentation opportunities are extended to the Water Quality Coordinator by invitation and have occurred at a rate of one to two per year since 2001. c. Facilitate cooperative partnerships and alliances with other government and non-government entities. This activity will occur throughout the year. d. Promote tribal water quality programs at CRITFC-sponsored outreach events such as the Gala and Ox Bow Festival (one event per year).

2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan

Goal:
Objective:
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:

Table 5. Summary of Component 4 for the 2008-2009 Work Plan.

Tribal Consortia: Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission **Region: 10** **Work Plan Period Begin:** October 1, 2008 **End:** September 30, 2009			
Work Plan Component: Reporting Schedule and Performance Evaluation **Personnel:** WQ Coordinator **Primary Capacity Area Developed:** Administrative			
Long - Term Outcome(s): Fulfillment of grant contract obligations facilitates the realization of watershed and water quality improvements that are protective of human and ecological health, including tribal members and their treaty-secured resources. **Intermediate Outcome(s):** Obligations of this contract are fulfilled.			
ESTIMATED COMPONENT COST: $6,600		**ESTIMATED COMPONENT WORK YEARS: 6%FTE**	
COMMITMENTS	**CAPACITY AREA DEVELOPED**	**END DATE**	**OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES**
1. Four, quarterly reports will be submitted to the EPA grants program manager for this grant. Each report is submitted within four weeks of the end of the previous quarter.	Administrative	Ongoing Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009	a. Each quarterly report will contain: • project accomplishments and how those accomplishments address the work plan commitments, • cumulative effectiveness of work plan accomplishments on tribal water quality programs, • identification of potential problem areas and proposed remedies for program improvement, and • suggestions for improving overall project performance and work commitments to tribal water quality programs.
2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan			
Goal:			
Objective:			
Sub-Objective X.X.X.:			

Component Milestones

1.1 Fish contaminant database is expanded. A database for scientific papers on fish contaminant exposure is developed. A forum for tribal climate change discussions is identified and used by the CRITFC member tribes to discuss climate change impacts to tribal resources.

1.2 Funding is received for a CRITFC and/or tribal climate change or fish contaminant reduction initiative.

2.1 Increased tribal participation in and response to regional and national water quality and watershed processes occurs. Comparison of water quality standards for Oregon, Idaho, and Washington is completed.

2.2 Increased tribal involvement in specific water quality issues identified by tribal staff occurs. *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* is applied to the decision-making process.

3.1 Increased partnerships occur between CRITFC's member tribes and other government and non-government entities to improve water quality and watershed health. Tribal water quality goals set forth in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* are incorporated in a policy or regulatory decision that impacts water quality or watershed health.

3.2 Tribal workshops and/or meetings are held during Fiscal Year 2009.

4.1 The water quality goals identified in *Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit* are incorporated in to a policy or regulatory decision that impacts water quality or watershed health.

5.1 Timely completion of quarterly reports occurs for Fiscal Year 2009.

XI. EPA ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The EPA will have no substantial involvement in the accomplishment of work plan commitments. EPA will monitor progress and provide technical assistance as needed to ensure project completion.

XII. JOINT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROCESS

Within 30 days of the end of each fiscal quarter, the Water Quality Coordinator will submit a performance report detailing the accomplishments, and identifying any existing problem areas that could affect or delay project completion. If the EPA Project Officer, after reviewing the repot, finds that the recipient has not made sufficient progress under the work plan, EPA and the Water Quality Coordinator will negotiate a resolution that addresses the issues. This evaluation process will help to ensure that the grant is being administered properly and that work conducted under the grant is in accordance with the approved work plan.

XIII. REFERENCES

CRITFC 1994. A Fish Consumption Survey of the Umatilla, Nez Perce, Yakama, and Warm Springs Tribes of the Columbia River Basin. Technical Report 94-3

EPA 2002. Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey 1996-1998. PA 910/R-02-006.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2007. Climate Change 2007: The Fourth Assessment Report. On-line at: http://www.ipcc-wg2.org/

Oreskes, N. 2004. Behind the Ivory Tower: The Scientific Consensus on Climate Change. 2004. *Science* Vol 306, no 5702: 1686

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION
729 NE Oregon, Suite 200, Portland, Oregon 97232 503 238 0667

MEMORANDUM

To: The Commission
From: Jaime Pinkham (Watershed Department Manager),
Patti Howard (Water Quality Coordinator)
Date: February 22, 2008
Re: Commission Resolution 08-01 Supporting the Commission's Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) General Assistance Program (GAP) for Fiscal Year 2009

Action

During Fiscal Year 2007, CRITFC began a new, four-year GAP grant cycle. The GAP grant supports one full-time staff position, the Water Quality Coordinator, in the Watershed Department at CRITFC. Since Fiscal Year 2006, EPA has recommended $110,000 annually for that position. We have requested the same amount from EPA to support the Water Quality Coordinator position during Fiscal Year 2009.

The CRITFC GAP application does not compete for tribal funds. Rather, tribal governments receive priority funding. Intertribal consortia are awarded any remaining GAP funds. CRITFC has received GAP funding since the mid-1990s.

The EPA requires that GAP grants submitted by intertribal consortia include two categories of resolutions in support of the GAP grant application. Those categories are: 1) an annual resolution from the intertribal consortia; and 2) tribal resolutions that cover each four-year GAP grant cycle. In 2006 we received tribal resolutions from each of the tribal governments that comprise CRITFC. With this action item, we are requesting the annual CRITFC resolution in support of our Fiscal Year 2009 GAP grant application.

Background

GAP was established by EPA to provide funding support for tribes to develop the capability to manage environmental programs. Through the GAP, CRITFC has continued the Watershed Restoration Support and Development Program. The primary purpose of that program is to assist and promote tribal program development in support of tribal salmon restoration. For example, the Water Quality Coordinator provides technical support in regulatory decisions making, promotes and facilitates outreach to other governments, and advocates for stable funding sources. Specific examples include:

State Water Quality Standards Review	Fish Consumption Rate Database	Oregon Fish Consumption Rate	Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership	Assistance with Grant Applications
Assistance with CRITFC Climate Change Initiatives	City of Portland Watershed Science Advisory Group	Portland Harbor Cleanup and Natural Resource Damage Assessment	Lower Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy	City of Portland SE Clay Green Street Project Advisory Group